

City of Norman
201 West Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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The City of Norman will be hosting a Public Forum Series on Municipal Finance. The series of public forums are designed to inform citizens about Municipal Financing and Budgets, address current and long-term financial plans and to answer any questions regarding this subject. The discussions will involve topics such as the breadth of services provided and related costs, restrictions on funds and current budgetary structural imbalances, citizen input on changes to level of services and long term fiscal priorities.

Councilmember Doug Cubberley, chair of the City Council Finance Committee stated “An understanding of how City services are funded is fundamental to having an informed citizenry. When discussing City finances with various citizens, I have encountered very basic misunderstandings about the City finances and funding of services. The Norman City Council's Finance Committee believes it is important to educate our citizens about the City's finances, especially in light of our financial challenges. At the suggestion of Council Member Hal Ezzell, the Finance Committee, with staff assistance, is launching a public forum on municipal finance to provide information and understanding about our City's finances”.

All citizens of Norman are invited to attend. Come and join your neighbors, community leaders and experts in the field of Municipal Finance to discuss Norman's future. These public forums are open to everyone with an interest in Municipal Finance and Norman's future.

Mayor Cindy Rosenthal said “It is important for our citizens to understand the challenges of municipal finance. The choices we face will have a huge impact on quality of life in Norman and our citizens are our most valued participants in defining our future.”

The forums will be held in the Norman High School Library located at 911 W. Main Street. They will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will last approximately two hours. The dates and topics of the forums are as follows:

October 14, 2010

Fund Accounting and Budget Basics

October 21, 2010	General Fund, Capital Fund, Enterprise Funds, Other Funds and Fund Balance
October 28, 2010	Capital and Economic Development Financing
November 4, 2010	Panel Discussion with other Oklahoma Cities
November 18, 2010	Long Term Planning and Outlook

Each of the forums is open to all, but the City would encourage your commitment to attend as many meetings as possible in order to gain a full understanding of Municipal Finance. Please call the City of Norman Finance Department at 366-5413 to reserve your place at these meetings. Informational packets regarding each meeting will be provided.